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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/626,193	07/24/2003	Carl Phillip Gusler	AUS920030372US1	1805
45371 7590 06/15/2007 IBM CORPORATION (RUS) c/o Rudolf O Siegesmund Gordon & Rees, LLP 2100 Ross Avenue Suite 2600 DALLAS, TX 75201			EXAMINER RODRIGUEZ, LENNIN R	
			ART UNIT 2625	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 06/15/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/626,193

Applicant(s)

GUSLER ET AL.

Examiner

Lennin R. Rodriguez

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 July 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/24/2003</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: **728** in Fig. 7. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), or amendment to the specification to add the reference character(s) in the description in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the examiner does not accept the changes, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

3. Claims 15-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. A "program product" is being recited; however a "program product" as presented in the claims is directed to software per se. This

subject matter is not limited to that which falls within a statutory category of invention because it is limited to a process, machine, manufacture, or a composition of matter. Software is a function descriptive material and a function descriptive material is non-statutory subject matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 3, 6-7, 13-15, 17, 20-21, 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Christodoulou et al. (US Publication 2002/0159092) in view of Ferlitsch et al. (US Publication 2004/0190042).

(1) regarding claims 1, 15 and 31:

Christodoulou '092 discloses a method for printing a document comprising:

analyzing a metadata in a plurality of document pages to determine a required printer type (paragraph [0036], lines 9-16, where the data provided is being analyzed to determine the printer type);

selecting an appropriate printer for each of the plurality of print jobs (paragraph [0036], lines 9-16, where the program identifies the printer that is capable of handling the job, wherein identification is performing selection after it identifies); and

printing the plurality of print jobs on the appropriate printers (paragraph [0036], lines 9-16, where "dispatches" is being interpreted as printing the job).

Christodoulou '092 discloses all the subject matter as described above except for separating each of the plurality of document pages into a plurality of print jobs based on the required printer type for each document page.

However, Ferlitsch '042, in the same field of endeavor, teaches separating each of the plurality of document pages into a plurality of print jobs based on the required printer type for each document page (paragraph [0015], lines 20-25, where the document is being separated into different printer types).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made separating each of the plurality of document pages into a plurality of print jobs based on the required printer type for each document page as taught by Ferlitsch '042, in the system of Christodoulou '092. In doing so, the system distribute the workflow of the document into different jobs, thus having less amount of work in each device and lowering the extra work of each device making the system efficient.

(2) regarding claims 3, 17 and 33:

Christodoulou '092 further discloses distributing one of the plurality of document pages to a specific printer holding queue (paragraph [0036], lines 9-16, where the program is selecting an specific printer for each print job, and paragraph [0032], lines 9-14, where it defines a queue that each printer has); and

wherein the required printer for the distributed document page is a specific printer (paragraph [0037], lines 20-32, where candidates printers capable of performing the job are being identified and one of them is picked to perform the operation).

(3) regarding claims 6, 20 and 36:

Christodoulou '092 discloses all the subject matter as described above except distributing one of the plurality of document pages to a color primer holding queue; and

wherein the required printer for the distributed document page is a color printer.

However, Ferlitsch '042, in the same field of endeavor, teaches distributing one of the plurality of document pages to a color primer holding queue (paragraph [0015], lines 20-25); and

wherein the required printer for the distributed document page is a color printer (paragraph [0015], lines 20-25).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made distributing one of the plurality of document pages to a color primer holding queue and wherein the required printer for the distributed document page is a color printer as taught by Ferlitsch '042, in the system of Christodoulou '092. With this it makes sure that the color portion of a document goes to a color printer for further processing, thus having less amount of work in each device and lowering the extra work of each device making the system efficient.

(4) regarding claims 7, 21 and 37:

Christodoulou '092 discloses all the subject matter as described above except distributing one of the plurality of document pages to a black/white printer holding queue; and

wherein the required printer for the distributed document page is a black/white printer.

However, Ferlitsch '042, in the same field of endeavor, teach distributing one of the plurality of document pages to a black/white printer holding queue (paragraph [0015], lines 20-25); and

wherein the required printer for the distributed document page is a black/white printer (paragraph [0015], lines 20-25).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made distributing one of the plurality of document pages to a black/white printer holding queue and wherein the required printer for the distributed document page is a black/white printer as taught by Ferlitsch '042, in the system of Christodoulou '092. With this it makes sure that the black and white portion of a document goes to a black and white printer for further processing, thus having less amount of work in each device and lowering the extra work of each device making the system efficient.

(5) regarding claims 13, 27 and 43:

Christodoulou '092 discloses all the subject matter as described above except printing a control page with each print job; and

wherein the control page contains printed instructions for reassembling the document.

However, Ferlitsch '042, in the same field of endeavor, teaches printing a control page with each print job (paragraph [0079], where the instructions to reassembly the print job is being interpreted as the control page); and

wherein the control page contains printed instructions for reassembling the document (paragraph [0079]).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made printing a control page with each print job; and wherein the control page contains printed instructions for reassembling the document as taught by Ferlitsch '042, in the system of Christodoulou '092. With this, it assures the reliability of having a complete document and not to lose any part of the complete document.

(6) regarding claims 14, 28 and 44:

Christodoulou '092 further discloses the appropriate printer is determined using a print farm profile (paragraph [0034], where, as disclose in the specifications page 6, lines 1-3, print farm means data for a printer as taught by Christodoulou).

(7) regarding claim 29:

Christodoulou '092 further discloses a classification program (paragraph [0036], lines 9-16, where the data provided is being analyzed to determined the printer type and all this is being interpreted as a classification program in accord with the applicant's disclosure).

Christodoulou '092 discloses all the subject matter as described above except a program product operable on a computer, the program product comprising: a computer-usable medium; wherein the computer usable medium comprises instructions comprising a plurality of printer programs.

However, Ferlitsch '042, in the same field of endeavor, teaches a program product operable on a computer, the program product comprising: a computer-usable medium; wherein the computer usable medium comprises instructions comprising (paragraph [0043], lines 1-4): a plurality of printer programs (paragraph [0015], where all the variety of printers (e.g. color or black and white) programs are contained in a computer readable device).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have a program product operable on a computer, the program product comprising: a computer-usable medium; wherein the computer usable medium comprises instructions comprising a plurality of printer programs as taught by Ferlitsch '042, in the system of Christodoulou '092. With this, it improves the adaptability and flexibility of the communication system by having it as a computer program.

(8) regarding claim 30:

Christodoulou '092 further discloses the plurality of printer programs comprises a specific printer program (paragraph [0036], lines 9-16).

Christodoulou '092 discloses all the subject matter as described above except the plurality of printer programs comprises a color printer program, a black/white printer program.

However, Ferlitsch et al., in the same field of endeavor, teach the plurality of printer programs comprises a color printer program, a black/white printer program (paragraph [0015], lines 20-25, where there are black/white and color programs so the printers can perform the different functionalities).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the plurality of printer programs comprises a color printer program, a black/white printer program as taught by Ferlitsch '042, in the system of Christodoulou '092. With these, the versatility to the system is amplified by having multiple printer programs.

6. Claims 2, 16 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Christodoulou et al. (US Publication 2002/0159092) and Ferlitsch et al. (US Publication 2004/0190042) as applied to claims ~~5~~ above, and further in view of well known prior art.

Christodoulou '092 and Ferlitsch '042 disclose all the subject matter as described above except reassembling the plurality of primed prim jobs to produce a finished document.

However, it is obvious in the art that the reassembling of the plurality of print jobs could be done manually, as disclosed in the specifications page 12, lines 15-19, thus any person or ordinary skill in the art should know the order of the documents and how to reassemble them in order to make a finished document.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to reassemble the plurality of primed prim jobs to produce a

finished document, as it is well known in the art in the system of Christodoulou'092 and Ferlitsch'042. With this, it assures the reliability of having a complete document and not to lose any part of the complete document.

7. Claims 4, 18 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Christodoulou et al. (US Publication 2002/0159092) and Ferlitsch et al. (US Publication 2004/0190042) as applied to claim ~~44~~ above, and further in view of Sasso (US Patent 4,591,146).

Christodoulou '092 and Ferlitsch '042 disclose all the subject matter as described above except the specific printer is a printer containing letterhead.

However, Sasso '146 teaches the specific printer is a printer containing letterhead (column 1, lines 31-33).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the specific printer as a printer containing letterhead as taught by Sasso '146, in the system Christodoulou '092 and Ferlitsch '042. In doing so the user does not have to specify a header, since the letterhead is already in place, thus making the system user-friendlier.

8. Claims 5, 19 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Christodoulou et al. (US Publication 2002/0159092) and Ferlitsch et al. (US Publication 2004/0190042) as applied to claim ~~35~~ above, and further in view of Burns et al. (US Patent 6,707,950).

Christodoulou '092 and Ferlitsch '042 disclose all the subject matter as described above except the specific printer is a photographic printer.

However, Burns '950 teach the specific printer is a photographic printer (column 4, lines 24-30).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the specific printer as a photographic printer as taught by Burns '950, in the system of Christodoulou '092 and Ferlitsch '042. In doing so the user can be able to print out photos that could be among the printer divided print jobs, thus making the system more efficient and expanding its capabilities.

9. Claims 8, 22 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Christodoulou et al. (US Publication 2002/0159092) and Ferlitsch et al. (US Publication 2004/0190042) as applied to claim~~59~~ above, and further in view of Kujirai et al. (US Patent 7,072,071).

Christodoulou '092 and Ferlitsch '042 disclose all the subject matter as described above except comparing each print job to a printer page threshold; and

responsive to a determination that the number of document pages in the print job exceeds the printer page threshold, separating print job into a plurality of print jobs.

However, Kujirai '071, in the same field of endeavor, teach comparing each print job to a printer page threshold (column 20, lines 19-25 and column 15, lines 44-67 and column 16, lines 1-8, where the page division is being made by means of a predetermined number of pages that can be process by certain printer (i.e., page threshold)); and

responsive to a determination that the number of document pages in the print job exceeds the printer page threshold, separating print job into a plurality of print jobs

(column 20, lines 19-25 and column 15, lines 44-67 and column 16, lines 1-8, where the page division is being made by means of a predetermined number of pages that can be process by certain printer).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made comparing each print job to a printer page threshold and responsive to a determination that the number of document pages in the print job exceeds the printer page threshold, separating print job into a plurality of print jobs as taught by Kujirai '071, in the system of Christodoulou '092 and Ferlitsch '042. In doing so, the system distribute the workflow of the document into different jobs, thus having less amount of work in each device and lowering the extra work of each device making the system efficient.

10. Claims 9-12, 23-26 and 39-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Christodoulou et al. (US Publication 2002/0159092) and Ferlitsch et al. (US Publication 2004/0190042) as applied to claim~~5~~4 above, and further in view of Yoshikawa (US Patent 6,132,116).

(1) regarding claims 9, 23 and 39:

Christodoulou '092 and Ferlitsch '042 disclose all the subject matter as described above except the selecting step further comprises: calculating the time until the printers are available; and sending the print job to the first available printer.

However, Yoshikawa '116 teach the selecting step further comprises: calculating the time until the printers are available (column 5, lines 3-14, where the quantifying means are being interpreted as calculating the time); and sending the print job to the

first available printer (column 15, lines 65-67 and column 16, lines 1-6, where the presentation means sends the job to the printer when it becomes available).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the selecting step further comprises: calculating the time until the printers are available and sending the print job to the first available printer as taught by Yoshikawa '116, in the system of Christodoulou '092 and Ferlitsch '042. With this, computer resources are managed in an efficient manner and the users do not have to wait for too long when waiting for a job to printed, thus improving the performance of the system.

(2) regarding claims 10, 24 and 40:

Christodoulou '092 and Ferlitsch '042 disclose all the subject matter as described above except the selecting step further comprises: calculating the time required for the print jobs to print; and sending the print jobs to the printer with the lowest calculated time required to print the print job.

However, Yoshikawa '116 teach the selecting step further comprises: calculating the time required for the print jobs to print (column 15, lines 21-56, where the quantify means are calculating the time it takes a print job to be printed in a page by page basis); and sending the print jobs to the printer with the lowest calculated time required to print the print job (column 15, lines 21-56, where the system sends the document to the printer that has low page by page recording time).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the selecting step further comprises: calculating the time

required for the print jobs to print; and sending the print jobs to the printer with the lowest calculated time required to print the print job as taught by Yoshikawa '116, in the system of Christodoulou '092 and Ferlitsch '042. With this, computer resources are managed in an efficient manner and the users do not have to wait for too long when waiting for a job to printed, thus improving the performance of the system.

(3) regarding claims 11, 25 and 41:

Christodoulou '092 and Ferlitsch '042 disclose all the subject matter as described above except the selecting step further comprises: ranking the printers based on the time until the printers are available; and assigning the print jobs to the printers based on the printer ranking.

However, Yoshikawa '116 teach the selecting step further comprises: ranking the printers based on the time until the printers are available (column 5, lines 12-14, where the selection of the optimum printer is being interpreted as a ranking system); and assigning the print jobs to the printers based on the printer ranking (column 5, lines 3-14, where the jobs are assigned to the first available printer).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the selecting step further comprises: ranking the printers based on the time until the printers are available; and assigning the print jobs to the printers based on the printer ranking as taught by Yoshikawa '116, in the system of Christodoulou '092. and Ferlitsch '042. With this, computer resources are managed in an efficient manner and the users do not have to wait for too long when waiting for a job to printed, thus improving the performance of the system.

(4) regarding claims 12, 26 and 42:

Christodoulou '092 and Ferlitsch '042 disclose all the subject matter as described above except the selecting step further comprises: ranking the printers based on the time required for the print jobs to print; and assigning the print jobs to the printers based on the printer ranking.

However, Yoshikawa '116, teach the selecting step further comprises: ranking the printers based on the time required for the print jobs to print (column 16, lines 4-6, where the selection of the optimum printer is being interpreted as a ranking system); and assigning the print jobs to the printers based on the printer ranking (column 15, lines 21-56, where the system sends the document to the printer that has low page by page recording time).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the selecting step further comprises: ranking the printers based on the time required for the print jobs to print; and assigning the print jobs to the printers based on the printer ranking as taught by Yoshikawa '116, in the system of Christodoulou '092 and Ferlitsch '042. With this, computer resources are managed in an efficient manner and the users do not have to wait for too long when waiting for a job to printed, thus improving the performance of the system.

Double Patenting

11. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-

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type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

12. Claims 29-44 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 33-34 and 37-50 of copending Application No. 10/631,063. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the claims in the present application are broader recitations of the claims in the '063 application.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

(i) Claim 29 of the present application recites:

29. A program product operable on a computer, the program product comprising:

a computer-usable medium;

wherein the computer usable medium comprises instructions comprising:

a classification program; and

a plurality of printer programs.

(ii) Where as claim 33 of the '063 application recites:

33. A program product operable on a computer, the program product comprising:
a computer-usable medium;
wherein the computer usable medium comprises instructions comprising:
a prioritization program;
a classification program; and
a plurality of printer programs.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the teachings of claims 33-34 and 37-50 of '063 application as a general teaching for a program product to perform the same functions as claimed by the present application. The instant claims obviously encompass the claimed invention of '063 application and differ only in that it contains one additional limitation. To the extent that the instant claims are broaden and therefore generic to the claimed invention of '063 application, In re Goodman 29 USPQ 2d 2010 CAFC 1993, states that a generic claim cannot be issued without a terminal disclaimer, if a species claim has been previously claimed in a co-pending application. Regarding claims 30-44, they are exactly the same as claims 34 and 37-50 of the '063 application, so no further explanation needs to be made.

Conclusion

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Severens (US Publication 2003/0218777) disclose, after at least one of such categorizing and labeling steps, the image processing system splits the mixed colour document into a functional colour part and a monochrome part, or in case only the colour part is previewed, removes any pages containing non-functional colour information only from the colour part of the mixed colour document and adds these pages to the monochrome part (paragraph [0015], lines 1-7).

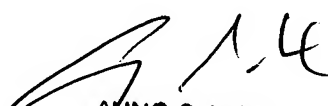
14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lennin R. Rodriguez whose telephone number is (571) 270-1678. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:30am - 5:00pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Aung S. Moe can be reached on (571) 272-7314. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Lennin Rodriguez
6/04/07


AUNG S. MOE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

6/11/07